



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Liberia Country Brief July 2018

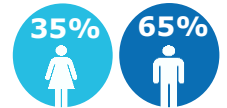


In Numbers

Funding outlook for 2018 remained **critically low** for the country office- the Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan resourcing is at 29%.

US\$22.m six months (July- December 2018) net funding requirements, representing 71% of total requirement

0.4 m people in need of assistance in JULY 2018



Operational Context

Liberia suffered violent conflicts spanning almost three decades, 1979 to 2003: a military coup d'état in 1980, widespread violence during military rule (1980-1990, and two civil wars (1989-1996 and 1999-2003). As a result, national GDP fell by 90 percent between 1987 and 1995, one of the biggest economic collapses ever recorded in the world (Liberia PRS 2008). In addition, an Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak from 2014 to 2015 caused significant socio-economic disruptions. The World Bank estimates the outbreak could have cost Liberia as much as USD 234 million or 12 percent of its GDP. Although, Liberia has reduced chronic malnutrition rates among children aged 6-59 months from critical to serious, according to WHO classification, 6 of Liberia's 15 counties still have critical levels of chronic malnutrition. To improve infrastructure and social service delivery, the government has embarked on a national development plan to make Liberia middle-income country by 2030, aligning to the SDGs target.

In January 2018, the Liberia country office made the shift to a transitional interim country strategic plan (T-ICSP) to allow the time for planning and development of a full country strategy plan (2019-2023). This T-ICSP focuses on school meals, livelihood/resilience, nutrition, capacity strengthening of national institutions, and supply chain services for development and humanitarian actors. WFP has been present in Liberia since 1968.



Population: **4.5 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **177 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **32% of children between 6-59 months**

Operational Updates

Budget Revision-The country office is undergoing a revision to its transitional interim country strategic plan (T-ICSP), to extend in time from December 2018 to June 2019. The revision is to align WFP plans with the national development agenda and the new United Nation Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) cycle. It will also allow adequate time to mobilize resources for the country strategic plan (CSP). The budget revision does not envisage any change in the strategic orientation of the T-ICSP

Food Assistance for Assets: The Japanese-funded Smallholder Agriculture Development Project (SHAD-P) that focuses on supporting marginally food insecure smallholders to scale up local rice and vegetable production began in Bong County with community assessment and inception workshop. Samaritan's Purse International Relief Liberia (SPIR) is serving as cooperating partner. SHAD-P aims to support 24,000 assets and food beneficiaries; rehabilitate/develop 57 hectares (ha) of lowlands for rice production; 12 hectares of vegetable production; rehabilitate 15 km of community path roads and develop 10 community structures including storage hubs/bins, drying floors utilizing 608 mt of assorted food items (cereals, pulses and vegetable oil)

Emergency Assistance: Heavy rainfall caused widespread flooding in urban and semi-urban areas is affecting an estimated 51,000 people in three of the fifteen counties (Grand Bassa, Margibi and Montserrado).

Liberia's National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) requested WFP to provide food assistance to 37,000 people identified. The country office has received an allocation of USD 1.5 m from the Regional Bureau for food assistance to the vulnerable people affected by the flood.

Contact info: John Monibah (john.monibah@wfp.org)
Country Director: Bienvenu Djossa
Further information: <http://www1.wfp.org/countries/liberia>

Main photo: Credit: WFP/Kabeh Enders
Caption: National stakeholders conference on Home Grown School Feeding at the Monrovia City, 27 July 2018.

Liberia Transitional Interim Strategic Plan (2018-2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
29.3 m	3.2 m	22.2 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Refugees and other crisis affected populations are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crisis across the country.

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activity:

- Provide general food assistance to vulnerable households affected by disasters and/or other disruptions.

Strategic Outcome 2: School aged children and populations affected by HIV/TB in targeted areas have access to adequate, safe and nutritious food all year round.

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activities:

- Provide safe, adequate and nutritious school meals to targeted school age children and monthly take-home rations to adolescent girls.
- Provide food and nutritional support to targeted groups (PLHIV, TB patients) and their affected households.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Targeted populations (pregnant and lactating women as well as children) have reduced malnutrition, including reduced stunting rates in line with national targets by 2025.

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activities:

- Provide nutritious foods to households with children aged 6-23 months in counties with the highest prevalence of stunting and provide nutrition education and sensitization to different groups and stakeholders.
- Build, rehabilitate and maintain productive assets including climate adaptation measures for targeted smallholders.
- Provide communications and education promoting the agricultural sector to community members, including women, youth and school children.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes

Strategic Outcome 4: Food-insecure smallholders and communities in targeted areas have enhanced livelihoods to better meet food security and nutrition needs by 2030.

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Provide agricultural market support (including HGFS) to smallholder farmers.
- Support development and management of community Food Reserves (CFRs) and other forms of insurance for rural women groups and smallholders.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 5: National and sub-national institutions have strengthened capacity to manage food security and nutrition policies and programmes by 2025.

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activity:

- Provide support to strengthen coordination mechanisms and information management systems for the government and its partners and provide support for the implementation of the disaster management policy with focus on early warning system.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnerships

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services throughout the year.

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activity:

- Provide supply chain services to humanitarian and development partners

Challenges

- WFP Liberia's funding outlook for the implementation of the T-ICSP remains critically low. As at end July, only 29 percent was funded. WFP is facing a critical lack of funding to provide food assistance to pregnant and lactating women and children suffering from malnutrition and stunting as well as other planned activities aiming to strengthen capacities for managing food security and nutrition policies. Available resources are programmed for school meals and resilience activities.

Partnership

- **Stakeholders' Conference on Home-Grown School Feeding (HGFS):** To increase resource mobilization efforts, WFP along with the Government and the UN Resident Coordinator, organized a National Stakeholders Conference focusing on HGFS. The aim of this high-Level event was to boost donor interest and commitments to WFP's school meals and resilience programmes. The event was attended by donors, the Private Sector, International financial institutions; and other stakeholders.
- **National coordination on Flood:** WFP participated in the government-led coordination mechanism set up by its disaster management agency (NDMA). Together with the NDMA, Liberia National Red Cross and other partners, undertook meetings, and verification exercises to identify communities and people most affected by the flood. WFP provided logistics support (vehicles & trucks) to deliver non-food items. Food assistance through cash-based transfers and in-kind food assistance is being planned.

Donors

In alphabetical order

Germany, Japan, Multilateral, Private Donors and UN-Common